

What is claimed is:

1. A computer program that when programmed in a computer causes the computer to provide the steps of:
 - a) forming a 1st machine-readable indicia in an image layer on a media; and
 - b) forming a 2nd machine-readable indicia in a protective overlayer that is identical in content to, and in register with said 1st machine-readable indicia.
2. A method of reading a media having indicia formed in a protective overlayer, said indicia having a physical topography that represents a machine-readable code comprising the steps of:
 - a) reading the physical topography of said indicia by a machine so as to obtain information encoded therein; and
 - b) interpreting said encoded information so as to obtain said information.